

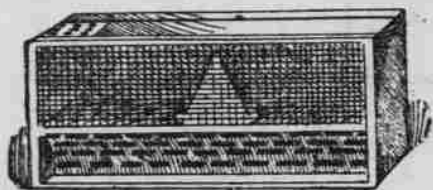
## THE FARMING WORLD.

### TRAPS FOR DRONES.

An Easy Way of Getting Rid of Useless Honey Consumers.

Almost any warm afternoon one may see numerous large black bees buzzing about the hives with a noise equal to more than twice their number of workers. These are the drones who toil not, and are useful only to fertilize the queen. As this is necessary but once in her lifetime, it is evident that by far the greater part of a drone's life is spent in useless consumption of stores. Nor is this all; as soon as honey becomes scarce in the field the attention of many of the workers is taken up with destroying these idlers, and the working force depleted to that extent. It is no uncommon thing to see two or more workers hauling out a drone, and either executing him, or driving him into exile.

It is important to save the bees as much work as possible, and thus economize their time. That is just what drone traps are for, and the one here illustrated is regarded almost universally as the drone trap for all apiaries. A close examination of the cut will explain the method of its use, I think, appearing as the trap does to the observer, when in place across the hive entrance. The back is open sufficiently to admit the bees readily, but the front is closed with a strip of perforated zinc, the perforations of which allow the worker bees to pass through



ALLEY TRAP.

freely, but not the larger drones. The latter, trying to escape to the outer air, crawl about in search of an exit, and finally find it through the apex of the wire cone shown in the center of the trap. (The latest patterns contain three cones.) This leads them into an upper chamber or apartment entirely inclosed with perforated strips, and from which there is no exit for them, except through the one by which they entered, a route they are very seldom able to retrace. In this way in the course of one or two warm afternoons about all the drones in the hive may be captured and destroyed at leisure. Or, if one does not care to kill them, an opening from the end of this chamber to the outer air, closed by a sliding tin, may be left open and the drones allowed to pass out this way. As they cannot return by this route, they are effectually debarr'd from reentering the hive. If this method is adopted, however, care should be taken that they do not simply go into another hive. If they are killed while caged see that no workers are with them.

So much for this "alley trap," as it is called, as a drone excluder. As a queen catcher it is also valuable. The queen is also larger than the workers, hence unable to pass through the perforated zinc. To prevent the issuing and departure of a swarm during the absence of the apiarist, place the trap before the entrance as for drones, taking care to see that the entrance at the end is closed. If a swarm attempts to issue the queen will either be forced back into the hive or caught in the drone chamber, and held till the return or convenience of the apiarist. Of course the swarm is not likely to go without her.

Formerly it was considered sufficient to catch her, and prevent the departure of a swarm to parts unknown. Now a new feature is being successfully introduced—a self-hiver. The top of the trap is perforated or removed for this, and a box made with the ends fitting tightly over the ends of the trap, the back consisting of the front of the hive, and the front a sloping board, not too smooth, extending upwards; all forming a second chamber above the trap, bee-tight, but with open top, which should be exactly on a level with the top of the hive. On top of this, place the hive into which you wish to introduce the new swarm. The large chamber of the self-hiver then will open at the top, directly into the empty hive, and the swarm following their queen up through the trap, will presently find themselves in their new hive. By placing a trap across the entrance to this to retain the queen, one can be sure the swarm will stay here, and at the same time allow the workers free passage out of and into their new home. By this method one may leave the apiary to look after itself for the day, without fear of losing a swarm of bees, and find them on his return at night already hived and settled in their new quarters.—American Gardening.

### A Remedy for Lockjaw.

A writer in Clark's Horse Review gives his experience in curing lockjaw, in which he says: "If a nail is picked up, get it out, of course, as soon as possible, then get a half pail of hot water—as hot as the horse can possibly stand it—pour in plenty of vinegar and also plenty of salt. This is all, only it must be so hot that at first when you put the horse's foot into it he will pull the foot out of the water; put it in again and keep on doing so until you can hold the foot in steadily. Hold it in half an hour or longer and repeat it again after two hours. Do this four times the first day. In nine cases out of ten it will save the horse."

### WHEN TO SELL HOGS.

In September and October the Pig Supply Usually Short.

While prices for hogs fluctuate much, sometimes when it is difficult to see a sufficient reason for a change, it has generally been true that prices have been relatively higher a few weeks in September and the early part of October. At this time the supply of fat hogs is usually small. The spring pigs are not yet ready for the market. Comparatively few fall pigs are dropped. Most farmers prefer to wait until they can feed the new crop of corn before beginning full feeding.

If we may judge of the past, it will be good policy to have any small fall pigs and brood sows, which it is not desired to retain for breeding purposes, ready for the market at this time. For years past we have thought the common practice of allowing sows to become quite thin in flesh while suckling their litters a mistake. If they are kept in fair flesh they can be fattened in a short time after the pigs are weaned. In several recent years such sows would have been sold for as much by the first of October as could have been obtained for them at any date notwithstanding their increase in weight.

The evidence is strong that the supply of good, fairly heavy hogs is now small. It is quite probable they will be in good demand as cool weather comes on. With present indications as to prices for corn it would seem good economy to feed with reference to prompt fattening instead of with the desire simply of keeping the hogs in moderate flesh—a plan of doubtful economy most generally, except for breeding animals.—Prairie Farmer.

### LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Don't let the young pigs get ravenously hungry, but do not overfeed them.

If a calf is half fed when young it will never be the most profitable animal to keep.

Give the horses the best feed you can get. They work hard and should be well treated.

Use pure bred sires always. Pick the best females for breeders, and never breed to scrub stock.

EVERY man who practices mixed farming has just as good a reason for keeping a variety of live stock.

Do you ever give the horses a drink in the morning before feeding them grain? If not try your own breakfast that way once.

A YEARLING sheep that has been carefully attended to will sell in the market with as much profit as any other animal that is kept on the farm.

DURING the first three months of this year Great Britain imported 4,332 horses, against 3,654 in the same period last year. The number of horses exported was 3,755 against 2,561.

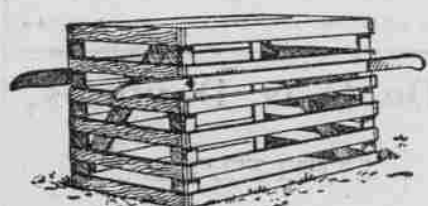
Stock that is allowed to fall off in condition is always kept at more or less loss, for it costs as much or more than it originally did to put them back to the weight they have fallen from.

Is your horse well shod and does his harness fit him? If not put on a pair of boots one size too large or small and let down one suspender and find out for yourself how he feels.—Farm News.

### CONVENIENT CRATE.

Said to Be Especially Valuable in the Handling of Calves.

The illustration shows a very convenient crate for handling sheep, calves and pigs. Each end is hinged, so that the animal can be driven in at



CRATE FOR YOUNG STOCK.

one end, the handles slipped into the iron sockets at the sides, the crate carried to the point desired, and the animal driven out at the other end. Such a contrivance is especially valuable in handling calves, which in many cases can neither be led, driven, or coaxed along. The crate should be made light but strong, spruce being the very best wood for such constructions, as it is light but exceedingly tough.—American Agriculturist.

### Keep the Ducklings Dry.

It is claimed that the Pekin duck will thrive well without ponds. It is true that the ducklings can be more easily raised away from ponds or streams than when allowed to have access thereto, but this is due to the fact that most ducklings are hatched with incubators during the winter season, when the cold waters of the pond would chill them and cause loss. Young ducks will thrive better if they are kept away from the ponds until they are well feathered; but despite all claims in favor of the Pekin duck as being adapted to dry locations, my experience is that the adult ducks are more contented when they have a pond. Like all aquatic birds, they enjoy the water, and though they will thrive on an open field away from water (except for drinking), yet they give the best results when they have the privileges of a pond.—Farm and Fireside.

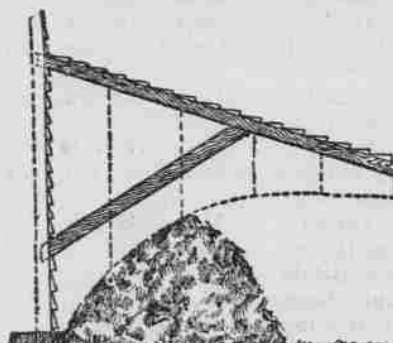
## FARM AND GARDEN.

### PROTECTING MANURE.

Webb Donnell, of Maine, Describes a New England Method.

I call it a "New England method," for, though it may be practiced elsewhere, I have not in other places observed its use to anything like the extent that is to be seen in New England. This matters little, however. The main point is to bring the value of the plan to the attention of farmers that now permit their manure piles to be leached by every rain and by the melting snows of winter, such manure heaps being usually situated alongside the barn and directly under the eaves which may or may not have gutters to carry off the rain that falls upon the roofs. Of course, those who leave their stable dressing exposed to such conditions do not fully realize the loss they are suffering, for it seems hardly credible that anyone would be so extravagantly wasteful if he realized the truth about the matter. I have in mind now one farm where for sixty years or more the dressing of from ten to twenty head of stock has been thus thrown out under the gutterless eaves, and after every heavy rain during all that time a thick brown stream has run down from the barnyard and coursed along through a ravine till it emptied into a river. Fully one-half of the value of all the dressing made on that farm for sixty years has thus run down into the ocean. As a matter of fact, I presume that much more than half of the value has been lost, for on this same farm the liquid portion of the manure (50 per cent. at least in value of the whole) has been allowed to run down through the "tie-up" floor, instead of being saved by a tight manure gutter and the use of absorbents. It is just such wretched management as this which keeps so many of our farms "run out" and so many of our farmers discouraged. There is little enough stable dressing made on any place, and when this is leached of from 50 to 75 per cent. of its fertilizing qualities, it is small wonder that the crops are meager and that one crop seems to use up nearly all the dressing put upon the land, leaving little for subsequent crops of grain or grass.

Some barns have manure cells where all the dressing made, including the liquid portion, can be saved; but such barns are the exception and not the rule. Barnyards entirely covered by one or more roofs are excellent where they can be afforded, but it is useless to urge the great body of farmers to roof over their entire yards for the protection of both stock and manure.



HOW TO PROTECT MANURE.

A simple and inexpensive protection for the manure, such as is illustrated herewith, is not out of the reach of anyone, however, and with its use the manure can be kept safe from all leaching. The manure is usually thrown out in heaps by the side of the barn. A shed roof can be built over these at small expense. The cut shows the method of framing, the dotted lines showing the boarding of the ends. The only mistake likely to be made is in getting the roof too narrow, with the result that rains accompanied by wind may beat in and wash the outer part of the piles, which will spread out upon the ground more or less, even with careful management. The outer edge of the roof need be only high enough that a cart can be backed under it, and being thus low will aid not a little in keeping out the rain; but even with a low roof I should want a width of at least twelve feet, and a good gutter upon the outer edge. Let the ground be level under such a shed roof, or, at most, but slightly sloping, else the manure will be continually rolling out from under the shelter of the roof when thrown out of the windows.

Where such an arrangement is used, care must be taken to have the cattle stalls well lighted from the ends of the barn.—Webb Donnell, in N. Y. Tribune.

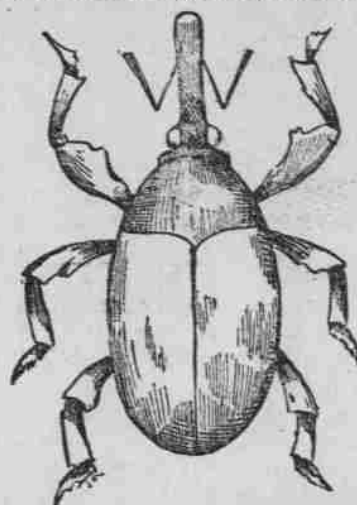
### Protection for Wheat and Corn.

To catch chinch bugs, mix kerosene and salt—one quart to the bushel—and strew it in a row two or three inches wide around the field, in the middle of a space ten to fifteen feet wide, devoid of vegetation by plowing and harrowing. At intervals of three rods bore holes eight inches deep with a post augur, trimming off the tops with a knife to make them smooth and funnel shaped; fill half full of water and pour in a little coal oil. The bugs strike this salt track, turn aside to go by it and roll into these holes, whence they can be dipped out, more kerosene added and the pile burned. Keep the holes smooth and fresh, pour a little kerosene on the salt once a day, and with a bright boy watching every day to keep things in shape, the bugs can be kept off.

### COTTON BOLL WEEVIL.

This Pest Has But Recently Appeared in the United States.

The agricultural department of the United States government considers the cotton boll weevil, a picture of which is here shown, to be one of the most dangerous pests that has ever made its appearance in the United States. It has so far confined its operations to northern Mexico and a limited area in Texas. It has in some localities shown a tendency to spread rapidly, while in others it is said to have been at work for years in very small



COTTON BOLL WEEVIL, HIGHLY MAGNIFIED.

areas, and shows little signs of extending operations. Department experts have been at work investigating his bugship for some months past in the neighborhood of Brownsville, on the Rio Grande. So far no cure has been discovered, and many acres of cotton have been abandoned in consequence.

An extraordinary thing about this creature is that it will live in a cotton boll, and nowhere else, and once secreted inside of these shells it is safe from enemies and snug and comfortable in a bed of softest down. The appearance of this insect is dreaded later in the year.

### SCREWS FOR REPAIRS.

In Most Instances They Are Far More Serviceable Than Nails.

A good supply of screws, of various lengths and sizes, should be kept, for in very many places where nails are commonly used screws would be very much better. Screws will hold two pieces of wood more rigidly than nails; whereas it is difficult in most instances to tighten loose work with nails in places where there is an unusual strain on the parts to be held together. By the gross they can be purchased very cheap and, in the long run, found no more expensive in many places than nails. Screws may be made to hold in soft wood or where the cut has become too large, by the use of glue. Prepare the glue thick, immerse a stick about half the size of the screw, and put it into the hole; then immerse the screw, and drive it home as quickly as possible. When there is some article of furniture to be repaired and no glue is to be had handily, insert the stick and fill the rest of the cavity with pulverized resin; then heat the screw sufficiently to melt the resin as it is driven in.

In broken plastered wall the best plan is to enlarge the hole to about twice the diameter of the screw, fill it with plaster of paris, such as is used for fastening the tops of lamps, etc., and bed the screw in the soft plaster. When the plaster has set the screw will be held very firmly. If screws are warmed and dipped in melted tallow or raw linseed oil, it will prevent their rusting and they can always be unscrewed with ease. A large quantity of screws can be greased in a few minutes, and the operation is one which will result in a great saving of time and labor.

### STACKING MARSH HAY.

This Article Tells How It Can Be Done to Advantage.

Owners of swamps and swales along the coast frequently find it impossible to store hay during the summer season because of softness of soil and waterways preventing the use of horse and wagon. Along the seashore the hay is cut during a dry period when the



FOR STACKING MARSH HAY.

marsh will support a man, cured and cocked on a number of piles as shown in the cut. If the cock is intended for a large one, boards are laid over a dozen or more piles; if small, the hay is laid on the pile heads. During the winter when the ground is frozen, the hay is easily removed by horse and sled.—Farm and Home.

FEED the pigs regularly. This is the first thing in feeding for profit.

### TWO RUSSIAN WOMEN.

The Strange Natures of Sonya Kovalevsky and Marie Bashkirtseff.

Only a strong and deeply interesting personality could worthily give rise to such a conflict, and such a personality Sonya Kovalevsky presented. She had no morbid self-consciousness, no precocious sense of her own importance to the universe, present and future, which could inspire her to keep a diary from the age of twelve, such as that of Marie Bashkirtseff, hitherto the best known of her countrywomen so far as the revelation of inner life is concerned. Sonya Kovalevsky's Recollections were not written until she had attained to a position absolutely unique in the history of feminine achievement, and far above that which Marie Bashkirtseff ever dreamed of gaining. She was the professor of mathematics in the University of Stockholm; she had won, in a perfectly fair, sealed competition with the most distinguished men the greatest mathematical prize in the world—the Bordin prize, which was doubled in amount on her behalf; she had won the hearts of the Swedes, who called her proudly and affectionately by her pet name—"our Prof. Sonya." Despite her learning, she carried off more prizes of men's hearts than ambitious Marie Bashkirtseff, with her beauty, taste, aspirations for fashion society and a grand match, or, falling that, love.

The comparison of these two Russian women seems only natural, because their likenesses as well as their differences are equally illustrative of particular features in national and individual character and in the character of all women. In one point they were, in a measure, alike; both Sonya Kovalevsky and Marie Bashkirtseff craved distinction in their work, and yet neither was willing to abdicate the woman's throne in the affection of men. At the bottom of their hearts the women who have won fame, and for any reason, no matter what, have missed the woman's distinctive domestic career, always regret that loss. While many of them might hesitate or refuse, like Sonya Kovalevsky, to renounce a brilliant independent career already assured for the problematic happiness of married life, like her they desire to grasp the one without sacrificing the other. This is likewise true of the married women who are "condemned" to the "obscure" life of domestic happiness. But there was, nevertheless, an essential difference between Sonya Kovalevsky and Marie Bashkirtseff; "our Prof. Sonya" loved her work for itself. The fate which it incidentally brought her never spoiled the sweet and gentle ways which endeared her to all. But who dare say that Marie Bashkirtseff loved her work for anything except the world-wide fame which she fondly hoped that it might bring her, or that she was an unselfish, easy, and pleasant person to live with?—Isabel F. Hapgood, in Century.

### FIDDLE SPRUCE IS SCARCE.

That Is, It Was Until a Man Found a Lot of It Near Lobster Lake.

An old lumberman from the headwaters of the Allegash, above Moosehead lake, says there are fifty thousand hundred-dollar violins growing on two townships of land near Lobster lake. Until lately, says an authority on the fiddle spruce, about all the spruce fit to make into violins was procured near Lake Saranac, N. Y., and here it was getting to be so scarce that men who were sent to hunt it up made poor wages. In fact, the chief supply of "fiddle wood" has of late come from the spruce and fir floor boards of colonial mansions. It is found that clear boards, seasoned for years under cover, give forth a very resonant tone, even if they are not fine grained and "kinky" like the true violin spruce. Boards from the under floors of aged houses are preferred, and those which were laid nearest the big old chimneys are the best of all. Kila drying spoils the tone of the choicest woods; but a slow, dry heat, away from the light, under such conditions as floor boards are dried, seems to bring out the melody in stock that is worthless when treated by the usual methods.

The true "fiddle spruce" is the "abies rubra" of Gray's botany, and it seems to be a fine-grained variety of the "abies nigra," or black "beer spruce," which is common throughout the eastern states. It is found on cold hillsides at the far north, and it is a slow-growing, close-fibred wood of a reddish tint, and remarkably free from resin. When a man discovers a tree of this class, large and straight and free from big limbs and knots, he can venture to fell it, knowing that he stands about one chance in twenty of finding a fiddle spruce. If the grain of the wood proves straight, with a cleavage which makes toothpicks, he has spoiled a timber tree for nothing. If the wood is "kinky," however, and full of dots, like a bird's-eye maple, the tree is worth fifty cents a cubic foot where it lies, and three times that sum when it is sawed and seasoned.

This wood not only gives an even, resonant sound when made into a violin, but it takes a beautiful polish, which brings out the wavy and spotted fibre in a way to make it admired by all. About fifty years ago a man in Newport, N. H., planted the cones of a fiddle spruce in a nursery, hoping, as he said, "to raise his own fiddles." They grew well, but out of over two hundred seedlings there was not a single tree fit to make into violins.—Springfield Republican.